

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 04347 011341Z

51 42
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IGA-02 A-01 M-02 RSC-01 DRC-01 /026 W
----- 065095

R 011215Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7945

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STADIS//////////

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: CASC, EAID (CORNELL, EZRA)
SUBJ: BUILDERS INTERNATIONAL CASE

FOR AF/W

1. AID/IIS INVESTIGATOR HAS TWICE ASKED EMBASSY
PROVIDE EMBASSY OFFICERS AS INTERPRETERS. EMBASSY DECLINED
TO DO SO. FIRST INSTANCE WAS REQUEST THAT EMBASSY
OFFICER BE PRESENT, OSTENSIBLY TO INTERPRET, BUT
ACTUALLY TO SERVE AS WITNESS WHILE INVESTIGATOR
INTERVIEWED CORNELL. PRESUMABLY EMBOFF WOULD THEN
HAVE BEEN IN POSITION AT LATER DATE SUBSTANTIATE INVESTI-
GATORS REPORT OF CONVERSATION.

2. SECOND INSTANCE WAS REQUEST THAT EMBOFF ACCOMPANY
INVESTIGATOR TO BANK AND ACT AS INTERPRETER. PURPOSE
OF INVESTIGATOR'S VISIT WAS TO ASK FOR ACCESS TO BANK
RECORDS CONCERNING ACCOUNT AND FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OF
CORNELL. INVESTIGATOR REASONED PRESENCE OF EMBOFF MIGHT
BOLSTER HIS REQUEST. FURTHERMORE, HE BELIEVED THAT,
IF HIS REGULAR THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL INTERPRETER WERE
PRESENT, BANK OFFICIALS WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO RELEASE
INFORMATION ON GROUNDS THAT TRANSLATOR MIGHT LEAK BANK'S
BREACH OF CONFIDENCE TO DAKAR BUSINESS COMMUNITY
JEOPARDIZING BANK'S REPUTATION.

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EM EMBASSY POLICY IN HANDLING CORNELL CASE HAS BEEN

TO KEEP INVESTIGATIVE ASPECTS OF CASE SEPARATE FROM CONSULAR ASPECTS. WE HAVE DONE SO BY LEAVING FORMER ASPECTS WITH IIS INVESTIGATOR, ATTEMPTING NOT INVOLVE EMBOFFICERS WITH HIS WORK, AND LEAVING LATTER ASPECTS TO CONSULAR OFFICER. DCM AND AMBASSADOR HAVE INTERVENED, HOWEVER, WHEN IT SEEMED NECESSARY TO PROTECT CORNELL'S RIGHTS. WE HAVE ADOPTED THIS POLICY SO THAT INSOFAR AS POSSIBLE CONSULAR EFFORTS TO PROTECT CORNELL WOULD NOT BE UNDERMINED BY HAVING SAME OFFICERS WHO MAKING REPRESENTATION WITH REGARD CORNELL'S RIGHTS SEEM TO BE COLLABORATING DIRECTLY IN ESTABLISHING RECORD WITH REGARD TO HIS POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT IN CRIMES OR MISDEMEANORS. AT SAME TIME, THIS POLICY GIVES IIS INVESTIGATOR FREE HAND UNAMBIGUOUSLY TO PURSUE HIS EFFORTS GET EVIDENCE CONCERNING CORNELL'S ACTIVITIES. THIS POLICY ALSO HAS ADVANTAGES OF HANDLING CASE IN AS LOW A KEY AS POSSIBLE AND BEING LESS CONFUSING TO GOS OFFICIALS.

4. WHILE IT MIGHT BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR AMBASSADOR OR EMBOFFS TO ASSIST DIRECTLY IN IIS INVESTIGATION CORNELL ACTIVITIES ON SOME FUTURE OCCASION, EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE ADVANTAGES OF TREATING CASE AS CITED ABOVE SHOULD BE LIGHTLY SACRIFICED. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPTS VIEWS AND GUIDANCE.

AGGREY

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